Crown Willamett Mill Crown Zellerbach Mill

At one time the Camas mill was the largest paper mill in the world. There were around 3000 people and now,in2002, there are only about 1200. My dad,Ben, and my Aunt Dora and Uncle Art Lethlean worked in the converting plant for many years. They worked three shifts, days, swing and graveyard. In those days they were much more of a family mill and cared more about their employees.

When my dad retired, they took he and my mother to lunch, to the Social Security Office to lay out their retirement and then they took dad to Vail's Studio to have his retirement picture taken -----all at the expense and time of the mill.

The mill has changed so much thru the years, being sold to James River, Fort James and now to Georgia Pacific.

We all loved the "Crown" logo for Crown Zellerbach. When I was a senior in high school I worked in the Bag Factory for a very short time (now gone). Those were the days that the women wore uniform dresses. Those uniforms were sold at Farrell's in town (only place you could buy them), they were navy blue with white collar and cuffs and came in two styles , peter pan or tailored. Women didn't wear pants until World War II.